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News Release

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PRESS ADVISORY

Corps steps up releases from Falls Dam as flood waters recede

WILMINGTON, North Carolina-The US Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District began increasing releases from the Falls Dam and Reservoir today. The Corps expects that improving weather conditions for the next several days will permit an increase of releases from today's 1,100 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 3,000 or 3,500 cfs by the end of the week. The release schedule increases are to be accomplished in increments of 1,000 cfs each day.

This operation is "designed to follow behind the recession side of downstream peak flows in the Neuse River" said Falls Water Control manager Daniel Emerson.

Water releases from Falls Dam had been near minimum for several days after heavy rainfalls caused rising levels in the Neuse River from Goldsboro and Kinston

"We have been working with Wayne and Lenoir County Emergency Managers, and with the City of Goldsboro. We are coordinating our releases from Falls Lake with them and with the Southeast River Forecast Center in Atlanta."

Today, Falls Lake is at 259.5 feet above mean sea level or about eight feet high, and is at peak.

"We constantly gather and evaluate actual and forecast weather and river data to adjust our operations," Emerson said. Current lake levels and releases for Corps projects in the Wilmington District are available on the internet at <http://epec.saw.usace.army.mil>.

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